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Amendments To The Claims:

1. (Original) A polishing composition used in a polishing process for reducing haze level of wafer surface, comprising:

hydroxyethyl cellulose;

polyethylene oxide compounded in said composition in a quantity larger than 0.005% by weight and smaller than 0.5% by weight;

an alkaline compound;

water; and

silicon dioxide.

- 2. (Original) The polishing composition according to claim 1, wherein the total content of iron, nickel, copper, and calcium in the silicon dioxide, as measured in a 20 wt-% aqueous solution of said silicon dioxide, is 300 ppm or less.
- (Original) The polishing composition according to claim 1, wherein the content of hydroxyethyl cellulose in the polishing composition is 0.1 to 1% by weight.
- (Original) The polishing composition according to claim 1, wherein the content of silicon dioxide in the polishing composition is 3 to 20% by weight.
- (Original) The polishing composition according to claim 1, wherein the alkaline compound is ammonia.
- 6. (Withdrawn)
- 7. (Withdrawn)
- 8. (Withdrawn)
- 9. (Withdrawn)
- 10. (Withdrawn)
- 11. (Withdrawn)

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- 12. (Withdrawn)
- 13. (Withdrawn)